



CHAPTER

1



JUN MOCHIZUKI

THE CASE STUDY OF

VANITAS





YOU MUST
NEVER LET
ANYONE STEAL
YOUR "TRUE
NAME."

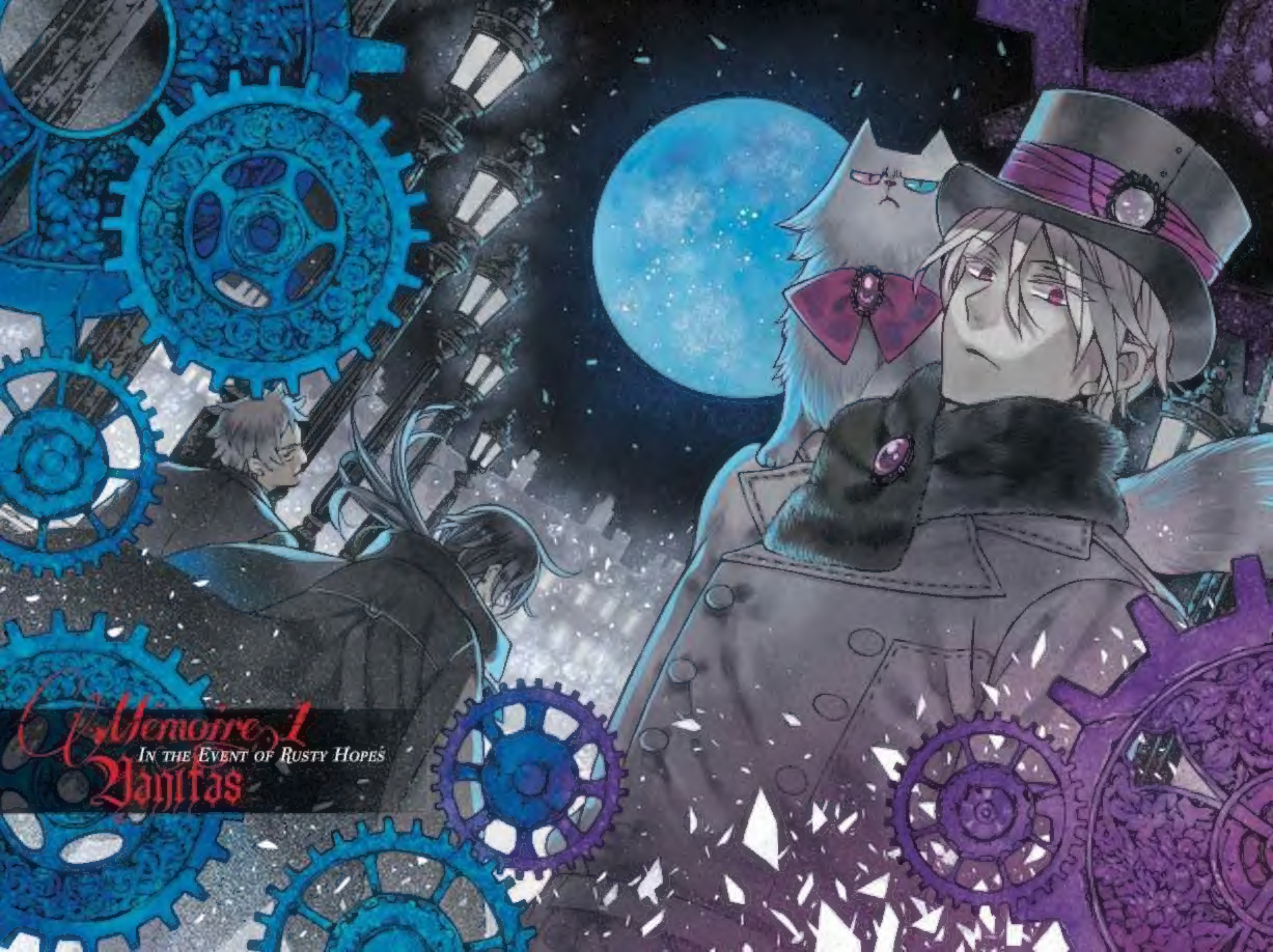
LISTEN WELL,
MON CHATON.



IN OTHER
WORDS...

YOUR
TRUE NAME IS
THE FORMULA
THAT SHAPES
YOUR VERY
BEING.

...IT IS YOUR LIFE ITSELF—



Memoire 1
IN THE EVENT OF RUSTY HOPE'S
Vanitas

CORPSES
COMPLETELY
DRAINED OF
BLOOD!

VAMPIRE
APPEARS
IN PARIS!!

REVENGE
ON
HUMANS!?

RUMORS
THAT THE
CHURCH
HAS FINALLY
BEGIN
TO MOVE!

A NINTH
VICTIM
HAS BEEN

BITE MARKS ON THE NECK—

IT'S COLD...

HOW
AWFUL...
TRULY?

A VAMPIRE
...?

COLD...







YES...
I THINK I'LL
BE ALL RIGHT
IF I REST A
LITTLE.

NOT AT ALL.
ARE YOU SURE
I CAN'T TAKE
YOU TO THE
INFIRMARY?



...YOU'RE
TOO KIND.

THANK
YOU.



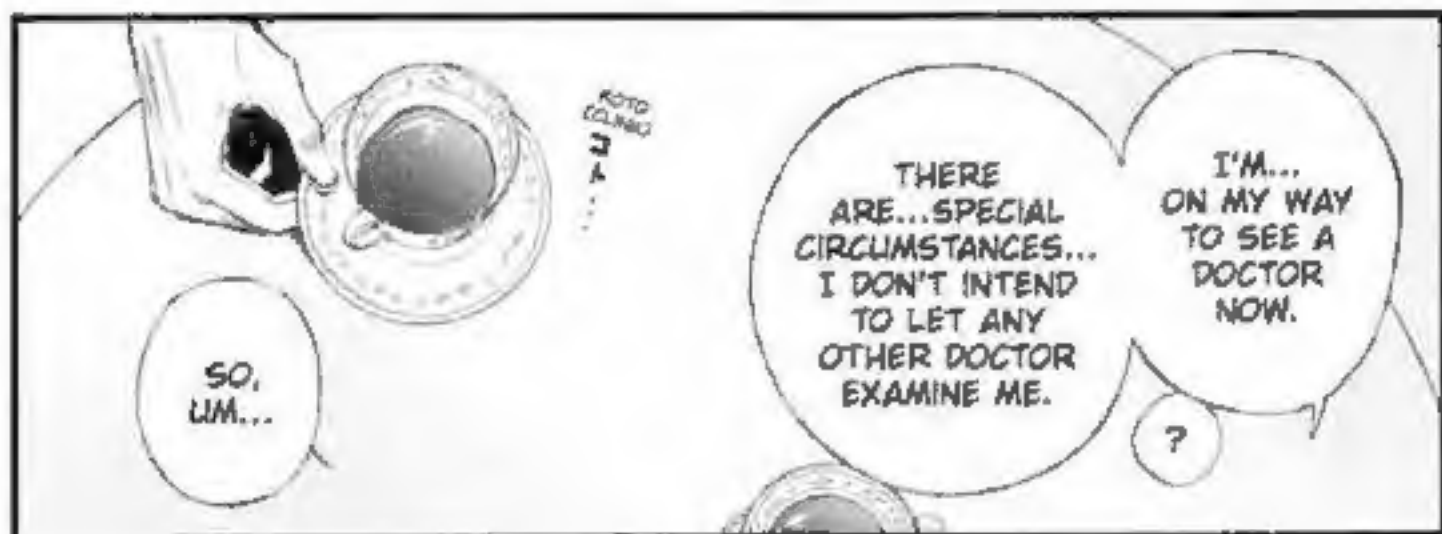
I-IT'S ONLY
ANEMIA.
PLEASE DON'T
TROUBLE
YOURSELF!

...YOU DO
LOOK PALE
THOUGH.

I'M
WORRIED



!?



SO,
UM...

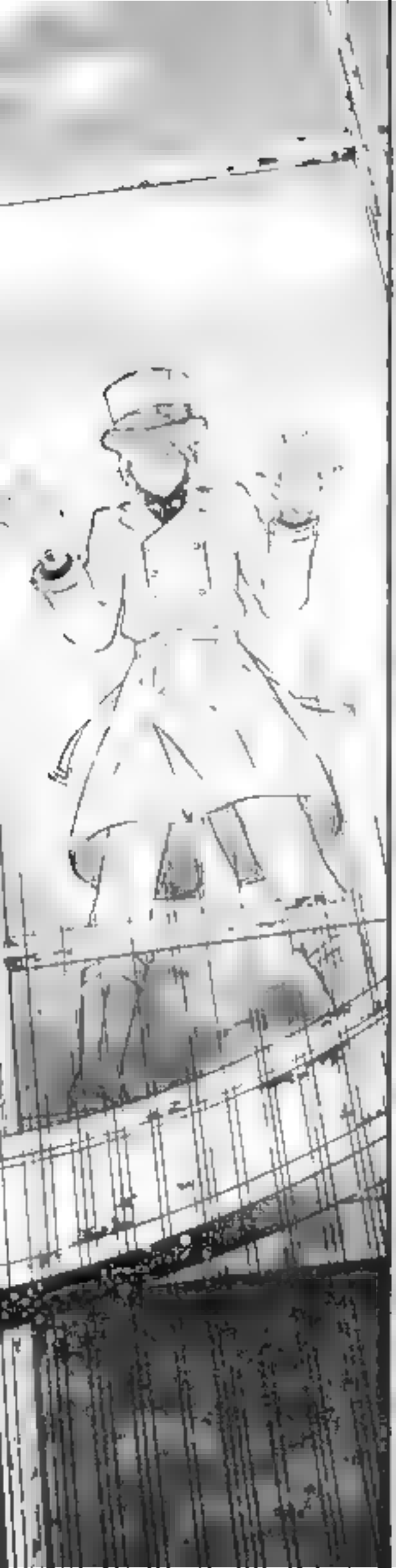
THERE
ARE...SPECIAL
CIRCUMSTANCES...
I DON'T INTEND
TO LET ANY
OTHER DOCTOR
EXAMINE ME.

I'M...
ON MY WAY
TO SEE A
DOCTOR
NOW.

?











WERE YOU TRYING TO HIDE IT!?

WHATEVER GAVE IT AWAY!?



IT'S TERRIBLY DEEP IN THE COUNTRY. I DOUBT YOU'D KNOW IT.

I'VE NEVER SEEN AN ARSH P THIS LARGE BEFORE, LET ALONE TRAVELED ON ONE.

...I LIVED SHUT AWAY IN THE FORESTS OF AVEROIGNE FOR AGES.

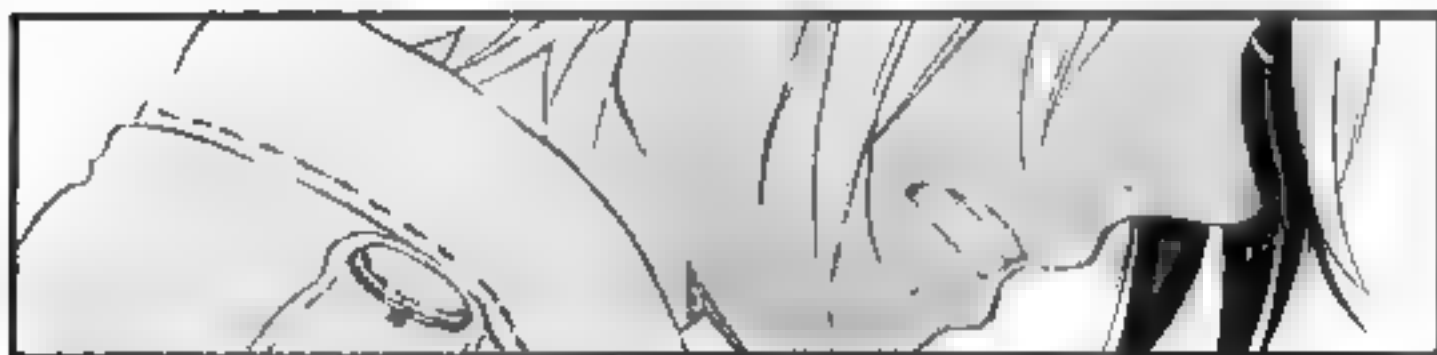


I HEAR PARIS'S A STEAM-POWERED CITY TO RIVAL EVEN LONDON.

I'M ALREADY LOOKING FORWARD TO LANDING THERE



TO THINK THEY'RE ABLE TO SET THIS MUCH WEIGHT FLOATING IN THE SKY.. THE POWER OF ASTERMITE IS TREMENDOUS, ISN'T IT?



*THE BOOK OF
VANITAS.*

A close-up of a character with short, light-colored hair, looking slightly to the side with a faint smile. The character is wearing a dark jacket with a high collar.

HAVE
YOU HEARD
OF IT?

A character with long, light-colored hair is shown from the chest up, standing in a dark, misty forest. The character is wearing a dark jacket and a light-colored scarf. The background is dark with some foliage visible.

IT APPEARS
IN A BED TIME
STORY, "THE
VAMPIRE OF
THE BLUE
MOON."

IT'S THE
NAME OF
A CURSED
BOOK.

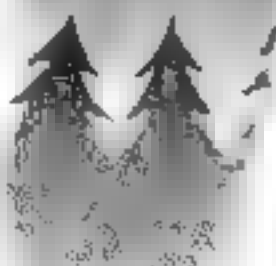
A small, stylized figure wearing a white, hooded dress with a dark collar and a small bow. The figure is standing on a dark, circular base. The background is a dark, misty forest with trees and a light-colored path leading towards the figure.

...THERE
LIVED
A HATED
VAMPIRE
KNOWN AS
"VANITAS."

ONCE UPON
A TIME, IN
A CERTAIN
PLACE...

HOWEVER, FOR
SOME REASON,
VANITAS WAS
BORN ON THE
NIGHT OF A BLUE
FULL MOON,
A SYMBOL OF
MISFORTUNE.

VAMPIRES
ARE
ORDINARILY
BORN ON THE
NIGHT OF A
CRIMSON FULL
MOON



FRIGHTENED
OF THE
DARKNESS,
FREEZING IN
THE SNOW,
HE WANDERED
AND
WANDERED.

VANITAS
WAS ALL
ALONE
IN THE
FOREST.

EVERYONE
WAS AFRAID
OF VANITAS,
AND THEY
RAN HIM
OUT OF THE
VILLAGE



AND IN
HIS HEART
OF HEARTS,
HE SWORE...

VENGEANCE ON VAMPIRES BORN ON THE NIGHT OF A CRIMSON MOON.



FOOLISH
VAMPIRES WHO
PERSECUTED
ME!

WHEN THIS
BOOK IS OPENED,
A CURSE MORE
TERRIBLE THAN
DEATH WILL
BEFALL YOU!!

A BLUE
LEATHER
COVER AND
JET-BLACK
PAGES...

A CLOCKWORK
GRIMOIRE
LINKED TO
A SILVER
CHAIN..

IT WAS A SPECIAL
BOOK CREATED BY
VANITAS, IMBUED
WITH THE POWER
TO INTERFERE WITH
VAMPIRES' TRUE
NAMES.

"...HE WILL
BECOME THE
ONE WHO WILL
DESTROY ALL
VAMPIRES."

OF
COURSE

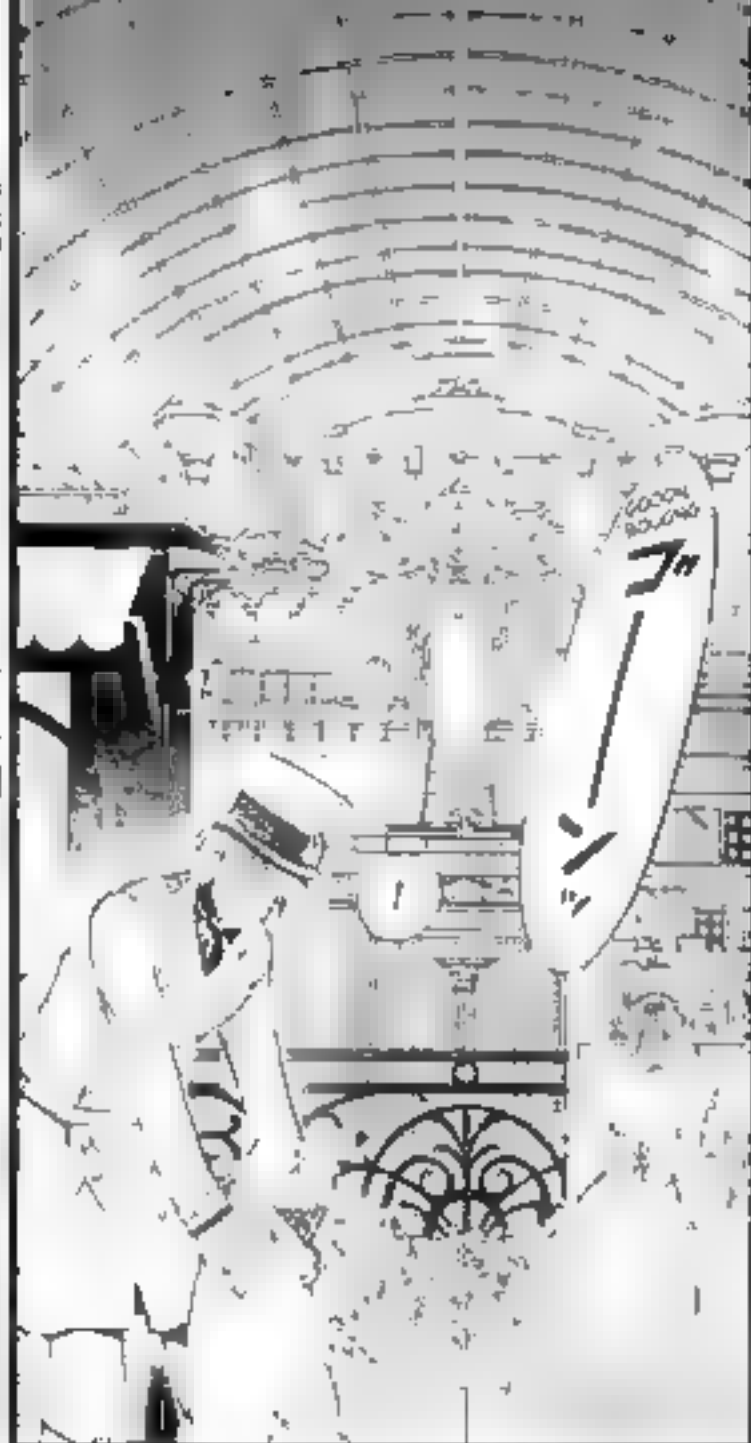
WE
KNOW THE
TARGET'S
'N HERE.

HEY.
ARE YOU
SERIOUSLY
GOING?

I WON'T LET
THE VAMPIRES
ESCAPE ME...!

...AND
BEFORE
LONG...

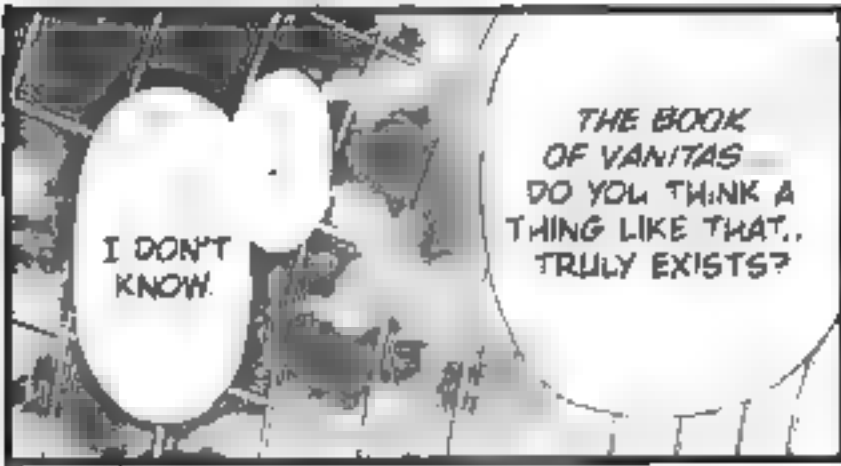
BLUE MOONLIGHT
LIKE MY OWN, WILL
DWELL IN THE EYES
OF HE WHO HOLDS
THIS BOOK...





Those who
are not yet
prepared to
disembark
should —

— From
this point on,
passengers
will be unable
to use the
onboard
facilities.



I DON'T
KNOW.

THE BOOK
OF VANITAS
DO YOU THINK A
THING LIKE THAT,
TRULY EXISTS?



THAT
STORY
...



IT WAS
SENT BY
MY FORMER
TEACHER.



HOWEVER.



...OR
NOT?

DOES
THE BOOK
OF VANITAS
REALLY
EXIST...

...ITS
EXISTENCE
HAS BEEN
CONFIRMED
IN PARIS."

..I RECEIVED
A LETTER
THAT SAID.



I'M GOING
TO PARIS
TO SEE FOR
MYSELF.

DOUG
HUNTER
1/2 #



ARE
YOU ALL
RIGHT.. ?



Mlle.
AMELIA
!?







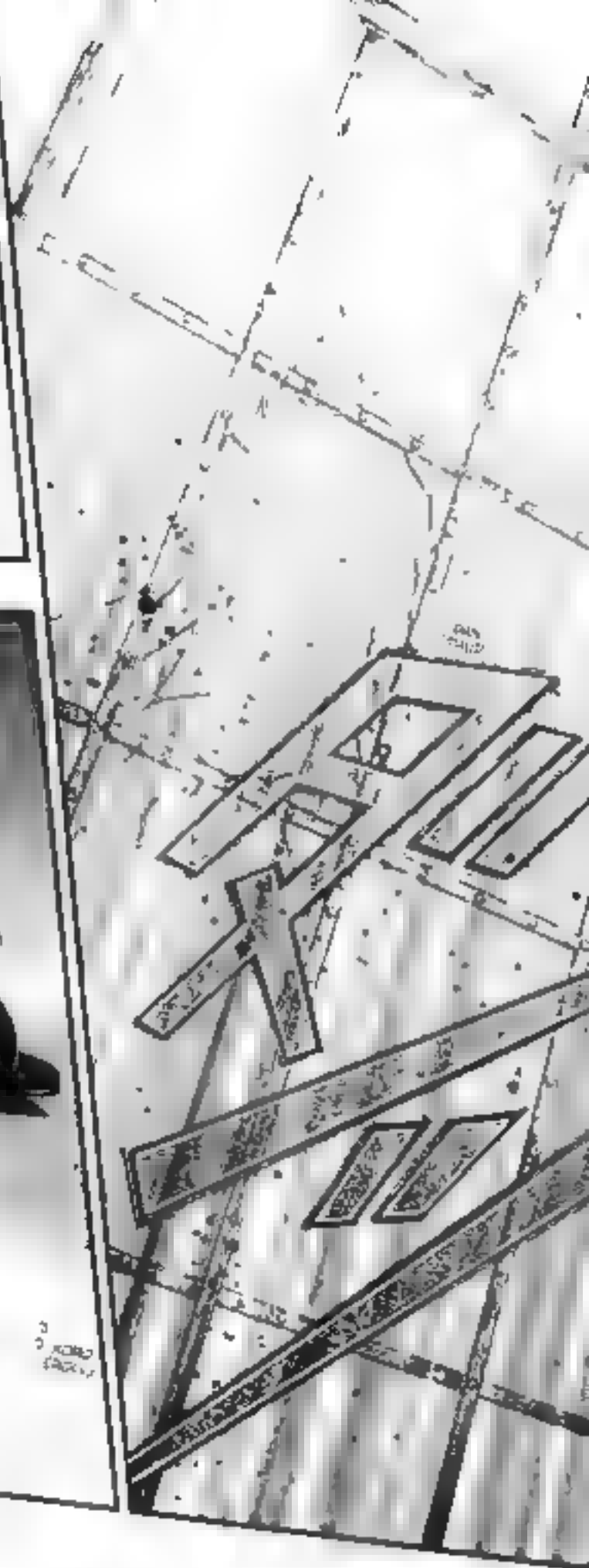


FOUND...

YÖÖOU
!!

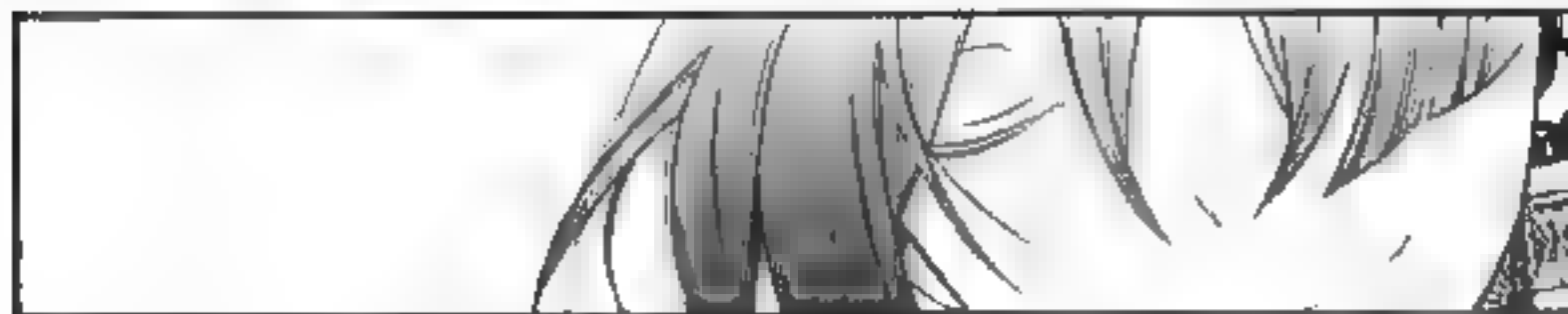


WHAT
?



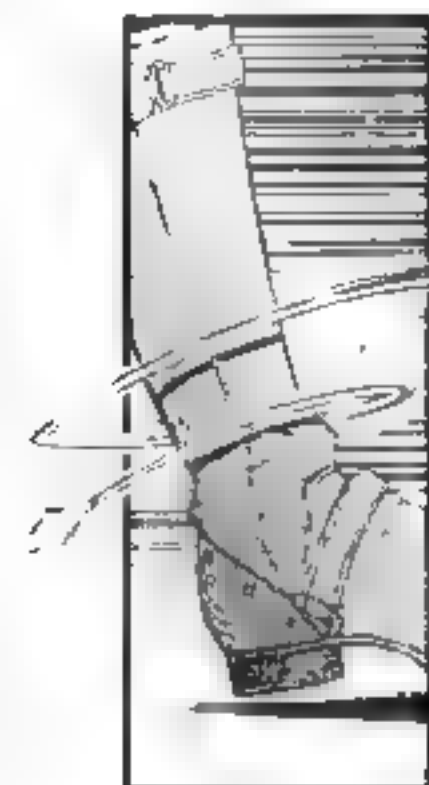
I THOUGHT
I HAD YOU
THERE.





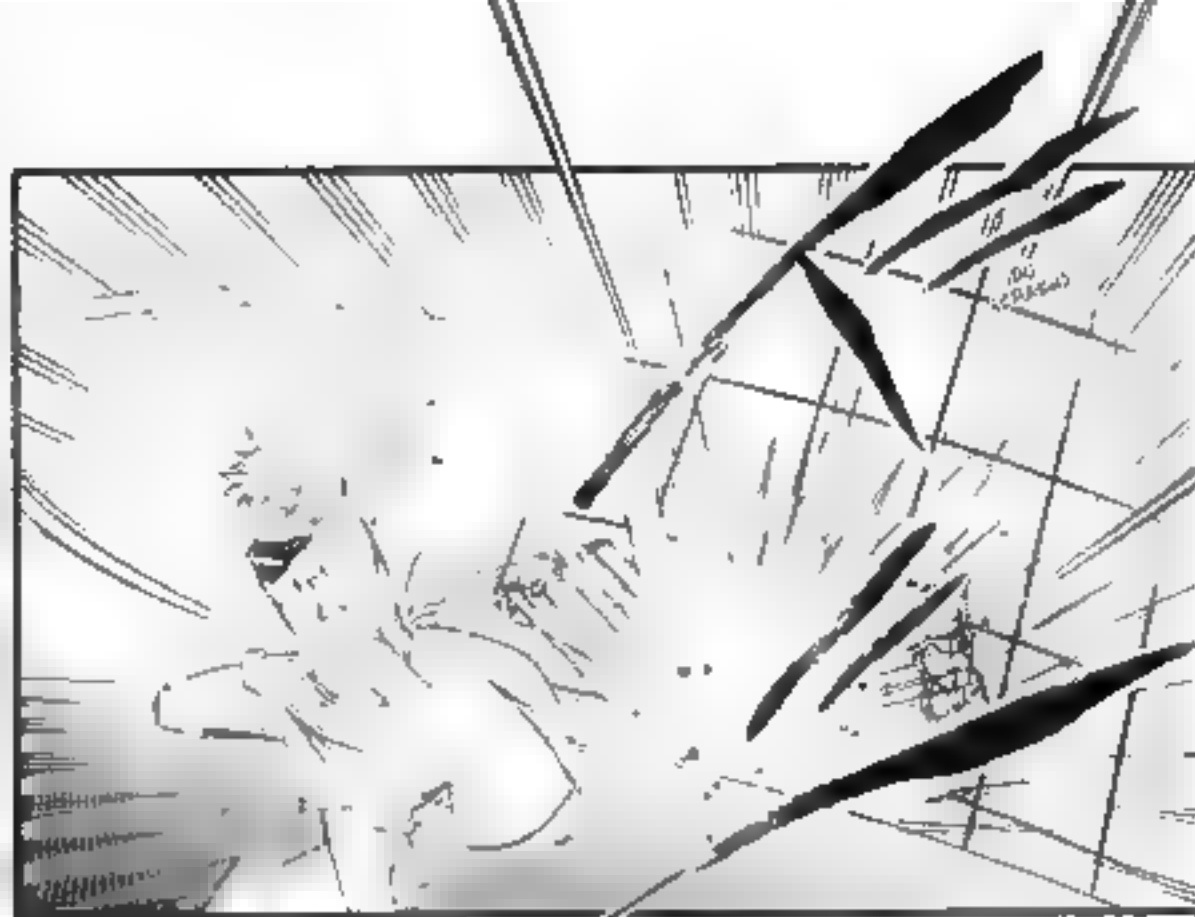
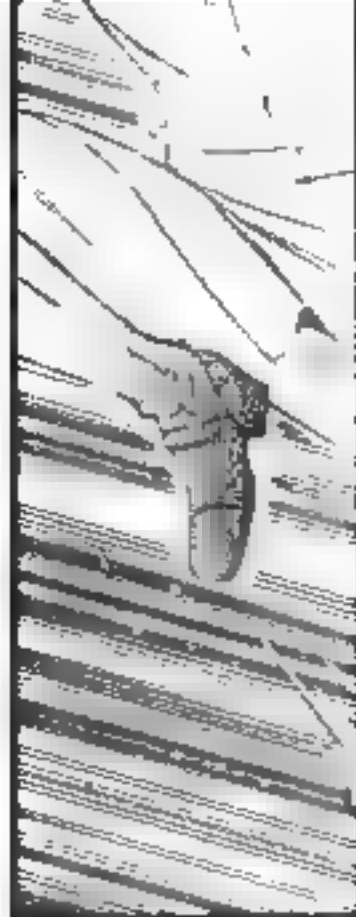






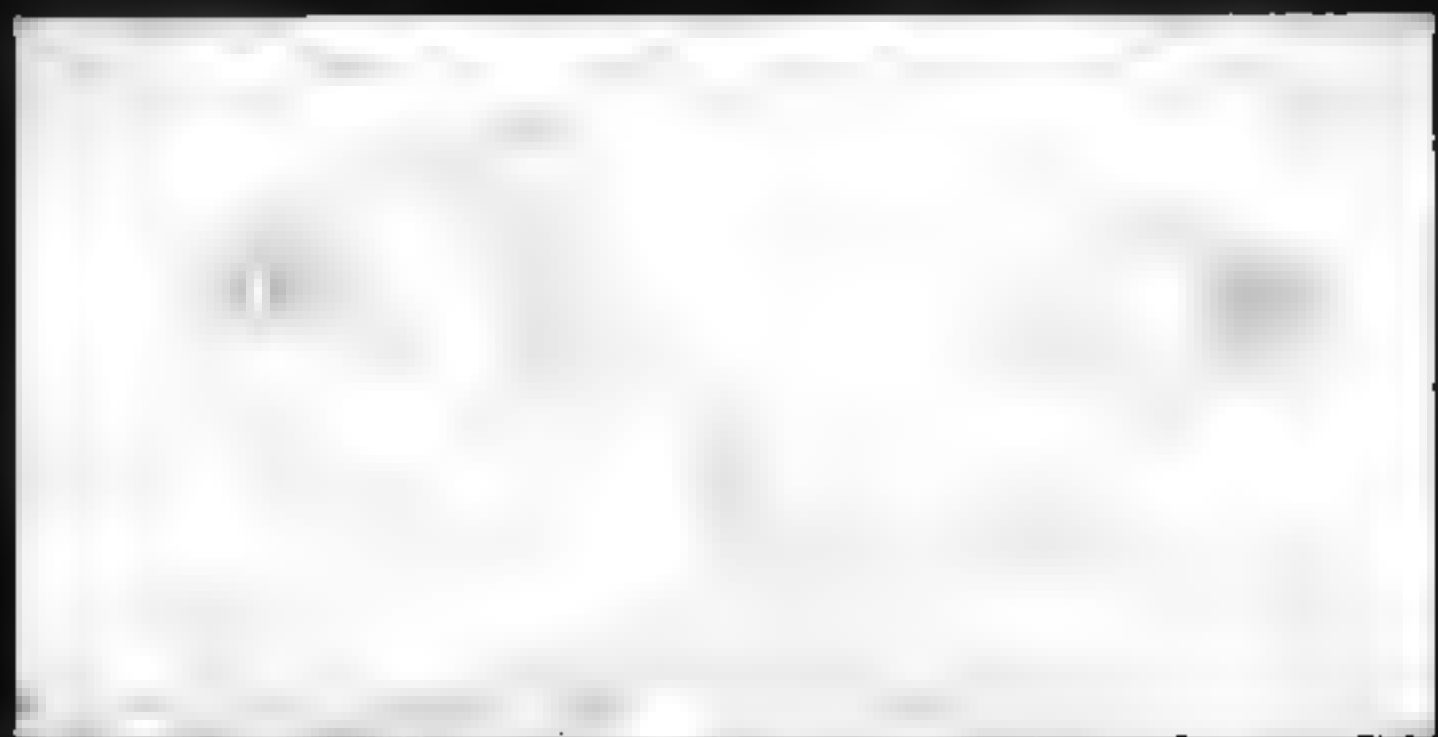














I LIKE
IT



IT'S
SO WARM.
AND THE
FLOWERS
ARE
LOVELY.

WHAT
A NICE
PLACE



WOULD
YOU GIVE
IT TO
ME..?



THIS
PLACE
YOUR
"TRUE
NAME"



IT'S
BEING
BLOTTED
OUT



AH!

AH

AH

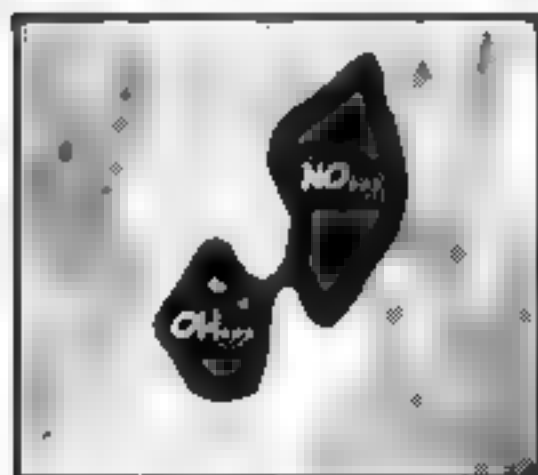
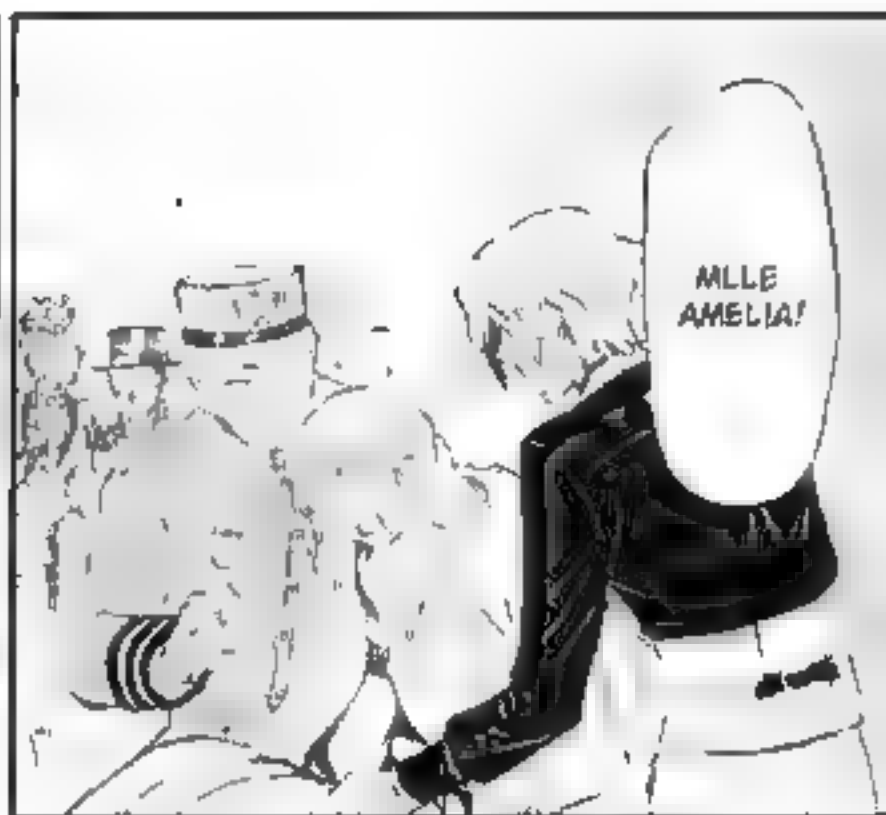


AH

HARD
USED

MY TRUE NAME...MY LIFE...

PITCH...BLACK...





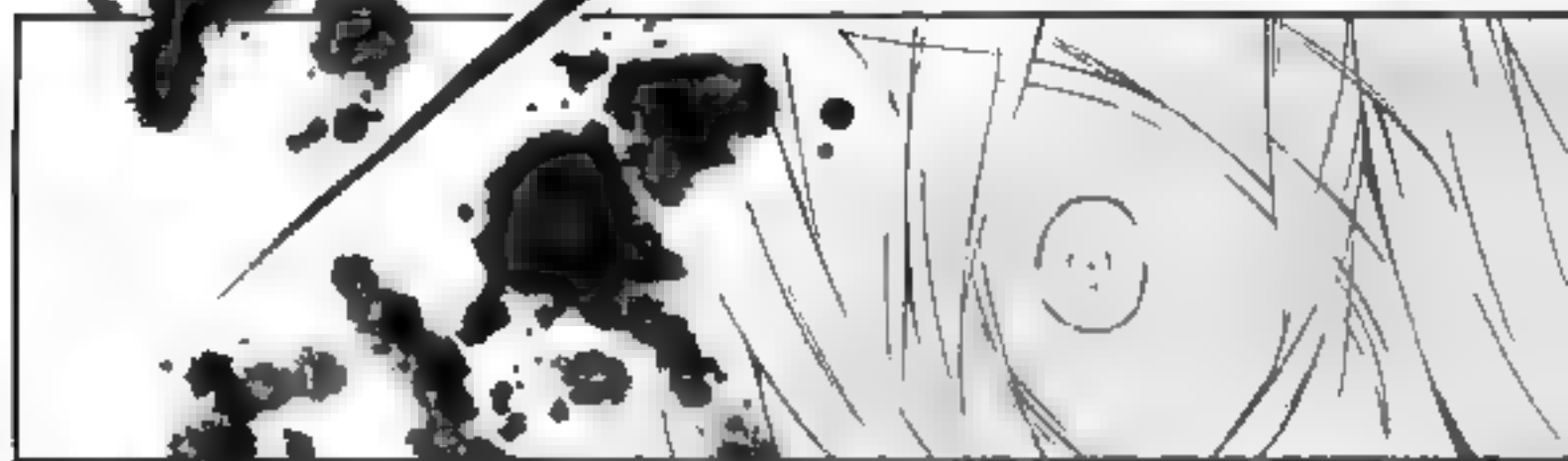
COLD...I'M SO COLD I MAY DIE...



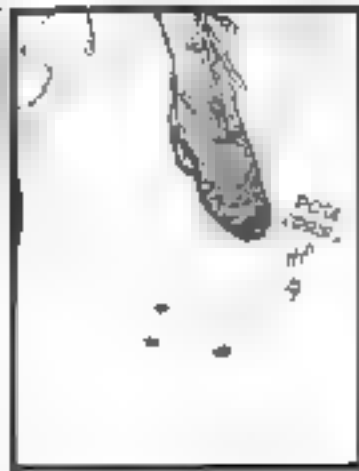
AND SO...



...I WANT SOMETHING HOT.















GOOD GRIEF.
THERE YOU SEE?
I TOLD YOU YOU'D
GET HURT.



JUST AS
I THOUGHT,
HER SYMPTOMS
MANIFESTED.



THE BLACK
TEARS THAT
SPILLED FROM
HER EYES AND
CHEST, AND...

SHADOW
BRIARS.

UNBEAR-
ABLE
CHILLS.



AND?
DID YOU
FIGURE IT
OUT?

OF
COURSE.



EGLANTINE,
PRISON OF
BRIARS.

MALNOMEN—



THAT'S
WHAT WE CALL
THE REMAINS
OF TRUE NAMES
WARPED BY THE
"MALADIES."



MAL
NOMEN
..?



THAT'S WHY
SHE'S LOST HER
SENSE OF SELF
AND WHY SHE CAN'T
FIGHT THE IMPULSE
TO DRINK BLOOD,
EVEN THOUGH IT'S
GENERALLY EASILY
CONTROLLED.

TRUE NAMES
ARE VAMPIRES'
LIVES, AND
THAT WOMAN'S
HAS BEEN
WARPED.



DON'T
BE SO
IMPATIENT,
BALDY!

I'M
NOT
BALD!

HEY, QUACK!
QUIT JAWING
AND FINISH
IT!



—NON!



I CAME...

**...TO HEAL
HER!**



**I AM A
DOCTOR.**

**ONE WHO
SPECIALIZES IN
VAMPIRES.**



"A BLUE
LEATHER
COVER AND
JET-BLACK
PAGES"

"A CLOCK-
WORK
GRIMOIRE
LINKED TO
A SILVER
CHAIN"

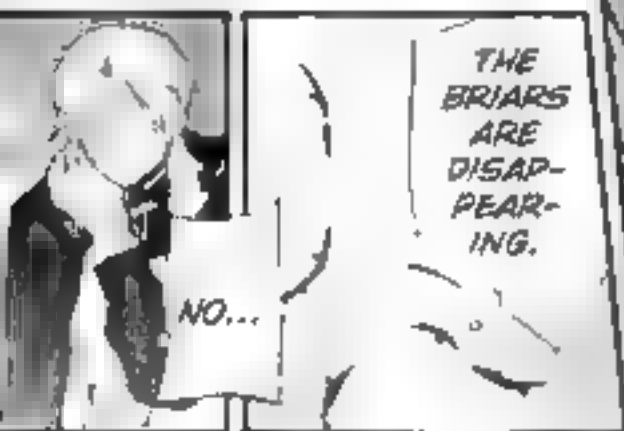
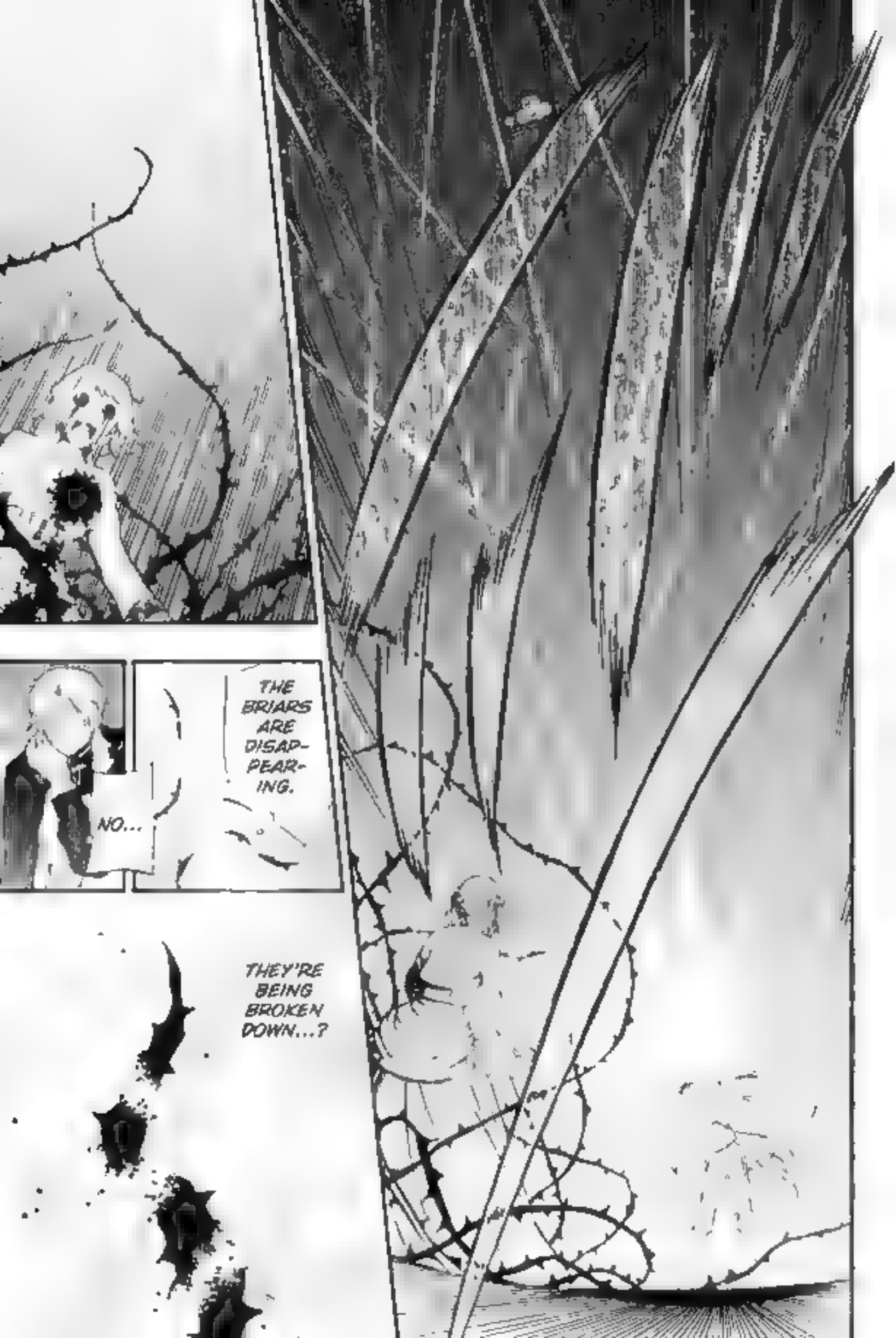
THAT'S

IT
CAN'T
BE..

**THE
BOOK
OF
VANI-
TAS
...!?**

LET'S GET HER
TRUE NAME
RETURNED.
SHALL WE?

NOW
THEN...

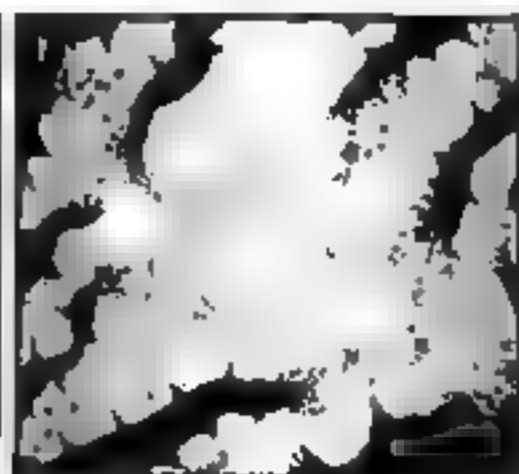
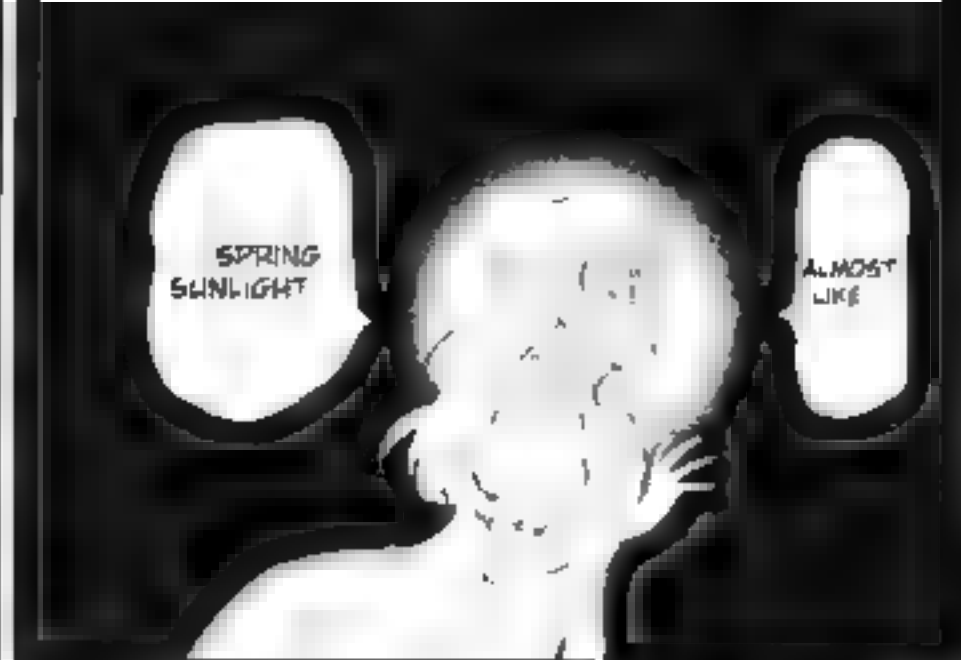


NO...

THE
BRIARS
ARE
DISAP-
PEAR-
ING.

THEY'RE
BEING
BROKEN
DOWN...?







**"FLORIFEL,"
SHE WHO
GUIDES
SPRING!**



**SO THIS
IS YOUR
TRUE NAME.
IS IT?**

I SEE.

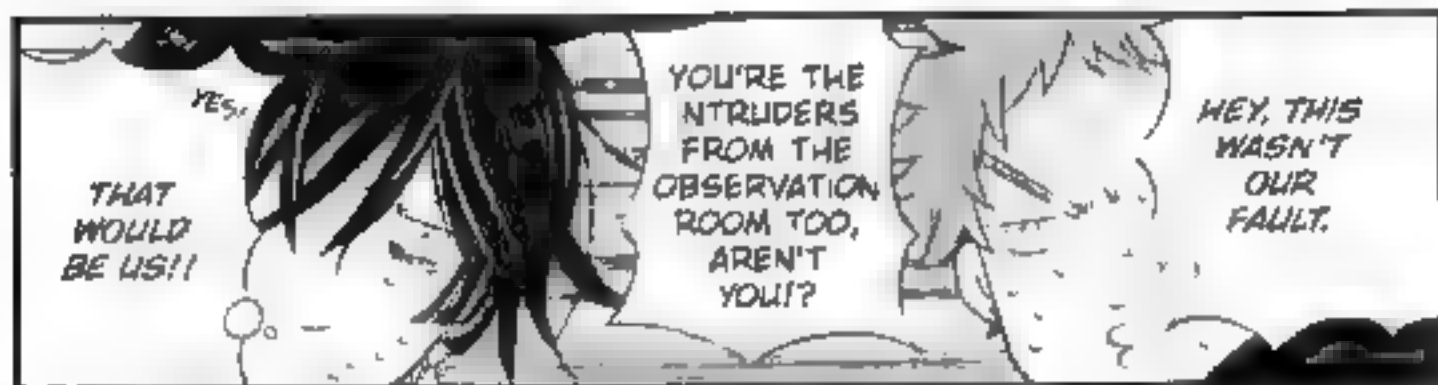






WHAT'S
ALL
THIS?

HANDS UP!
WHAT
WERE YOU
DOING
HERE!?



THAT
WOULD
BE US!!

YOU'RE THE
INTRUDERS
FROM THE
OBSERVATION
ROOM TOO,
AREN'T
YOU!?

HEY, THIS
WASN'T
OUR
FAULT.



...YOU'LL
GET
HURT...!!

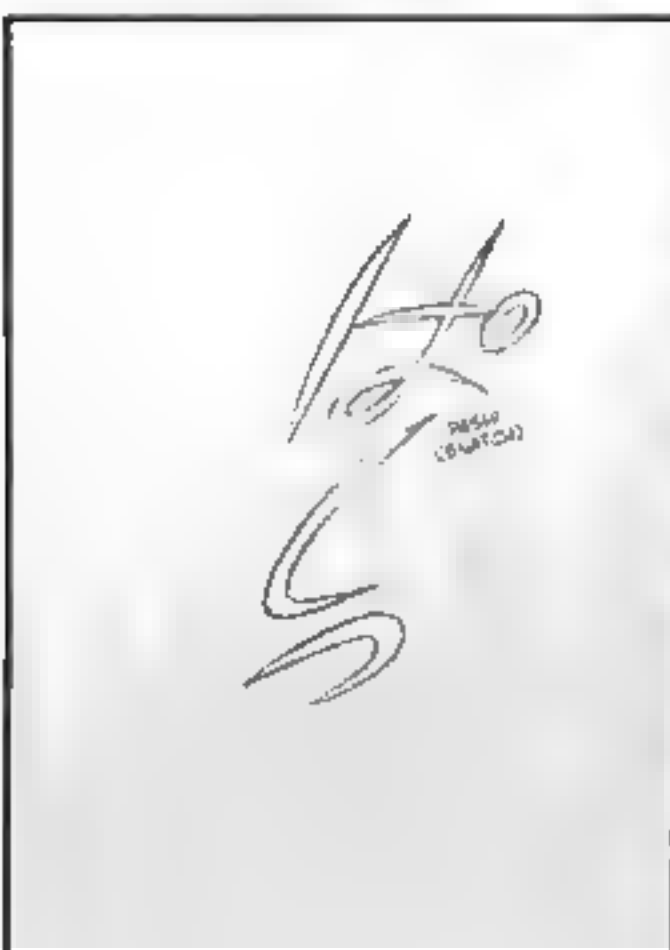
IF YOU
DO..

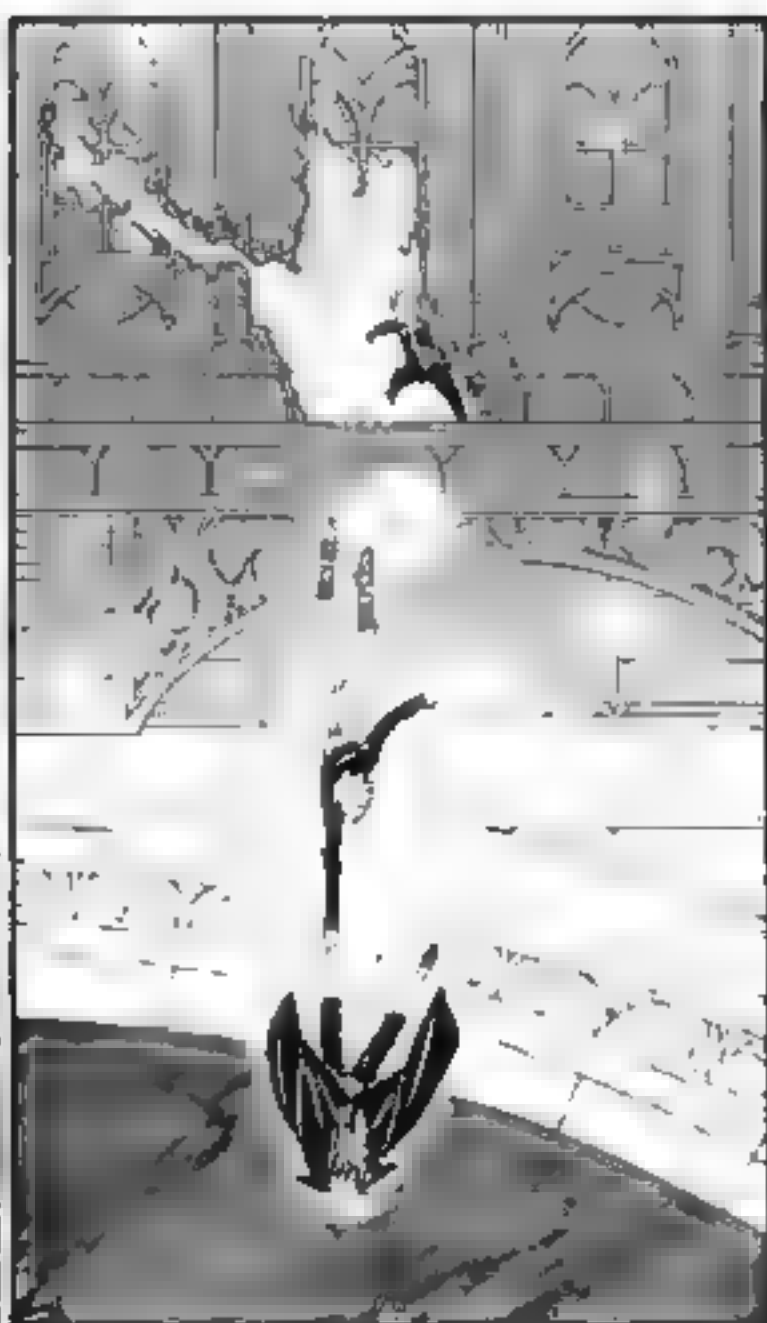


HEH



TAKE MY
ADVICE—
DON'T
INVOLVE
YOUR-
SELVES
WITH
US.







A BLUE...

YOU'RE



NOT
AFRAID OF
THAT MOON,
ARE YOU?

...MOON—





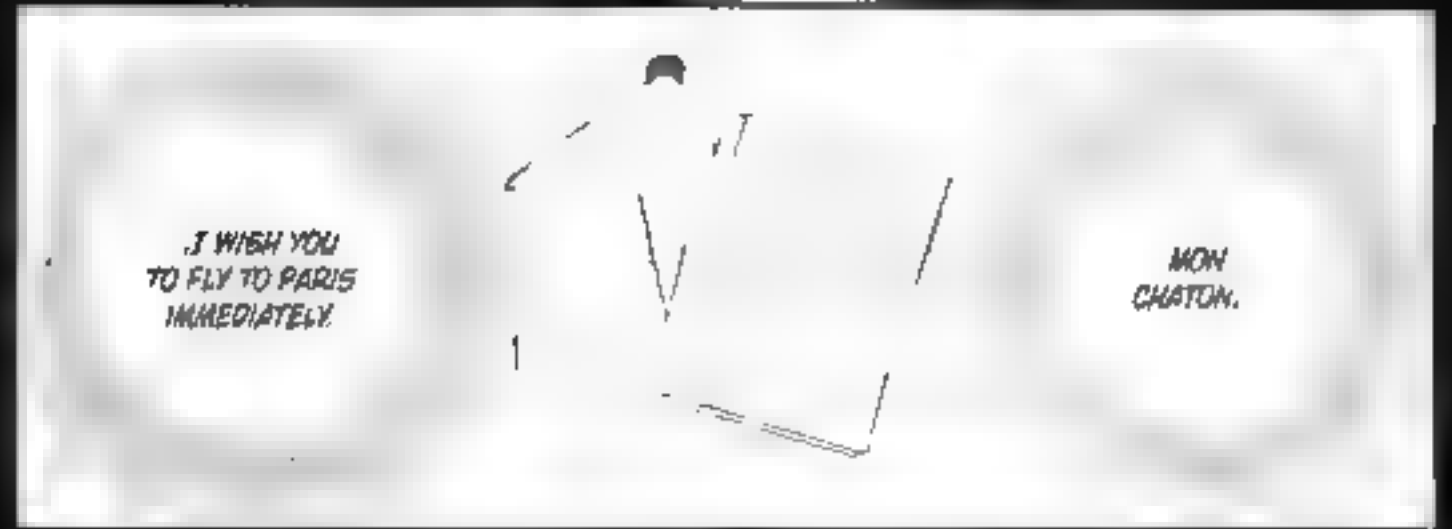
EVEN THOUGH
THAT BLUE LIGHT
IS SAID TO STEAL
VAMPIRES POWER
AND IS A SYMBOL OF
MISFORTUNE.



...BUT...



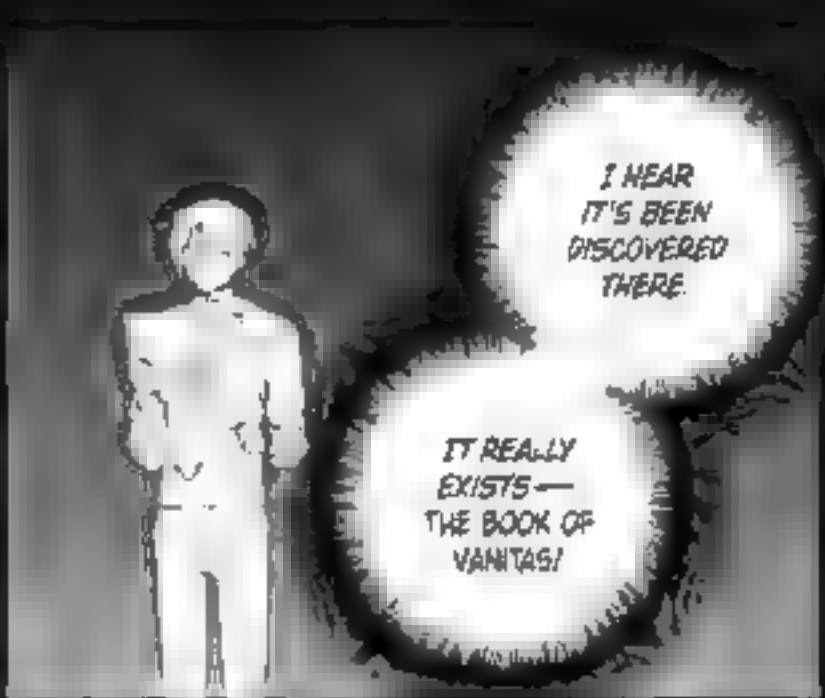
...TEACHER...





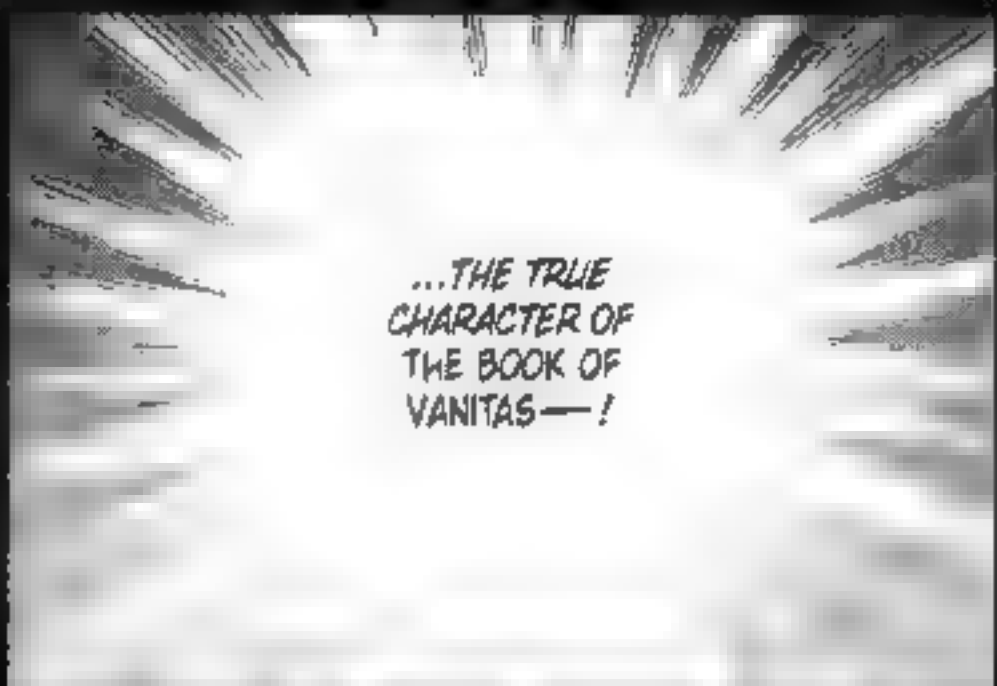
FIND IT
WITHOUT
FAIL...

AND SEE
FOR YOUR-
SELF...



I HEAR
IT'S BEEN
DISCOVERED
THERE.

IT REALLY
EXISTS —
THE BOOK OF
VANITAS!



...THE TRUE
CHARACTER OF
THE BOOK OF
VANITAS — !



WITH
YOUR OWN
EYES.





BWAAA-
HA-HA-
HA-HA-
HA-HA!

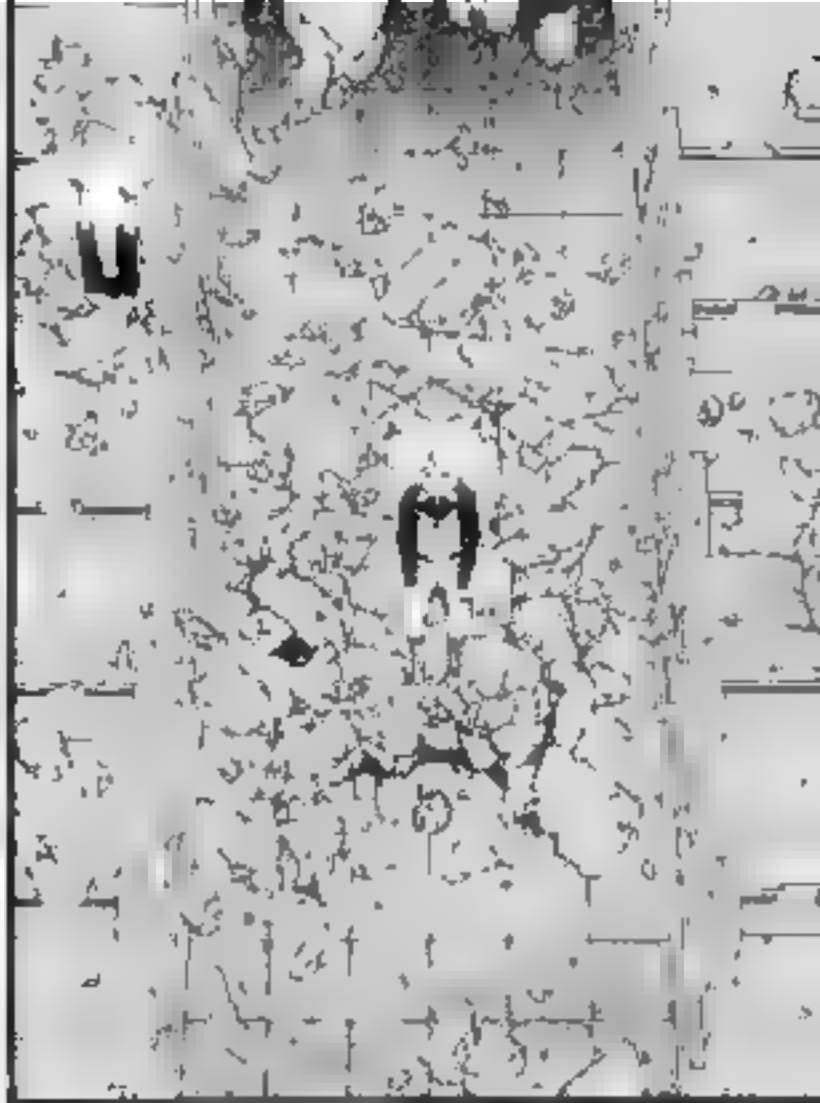
WHAT IS
THIS? WE'RE
ALIVE! THAT
MAKES NO
SENSE!

HA!
HA!

HA!
HA!



HOW ON
EARTH DID
WE LAND
ANYWAY?



GAH
(GUILTY)



WHAT WAS
THAT BACK
THERE?

WHAT DID
YOU DO TO
HER!?

SEN GARA JATTLE! GARA



ズボッ



AN "INVERSE
OPERATION."



THAT'S
ALL IT
WAS



I USED
THE POWER
OF THE BOOK
OF VANITAS TO
INTERFERE WITH
HER TRUE NAME
AND REMOVE THE
IRRITANT.

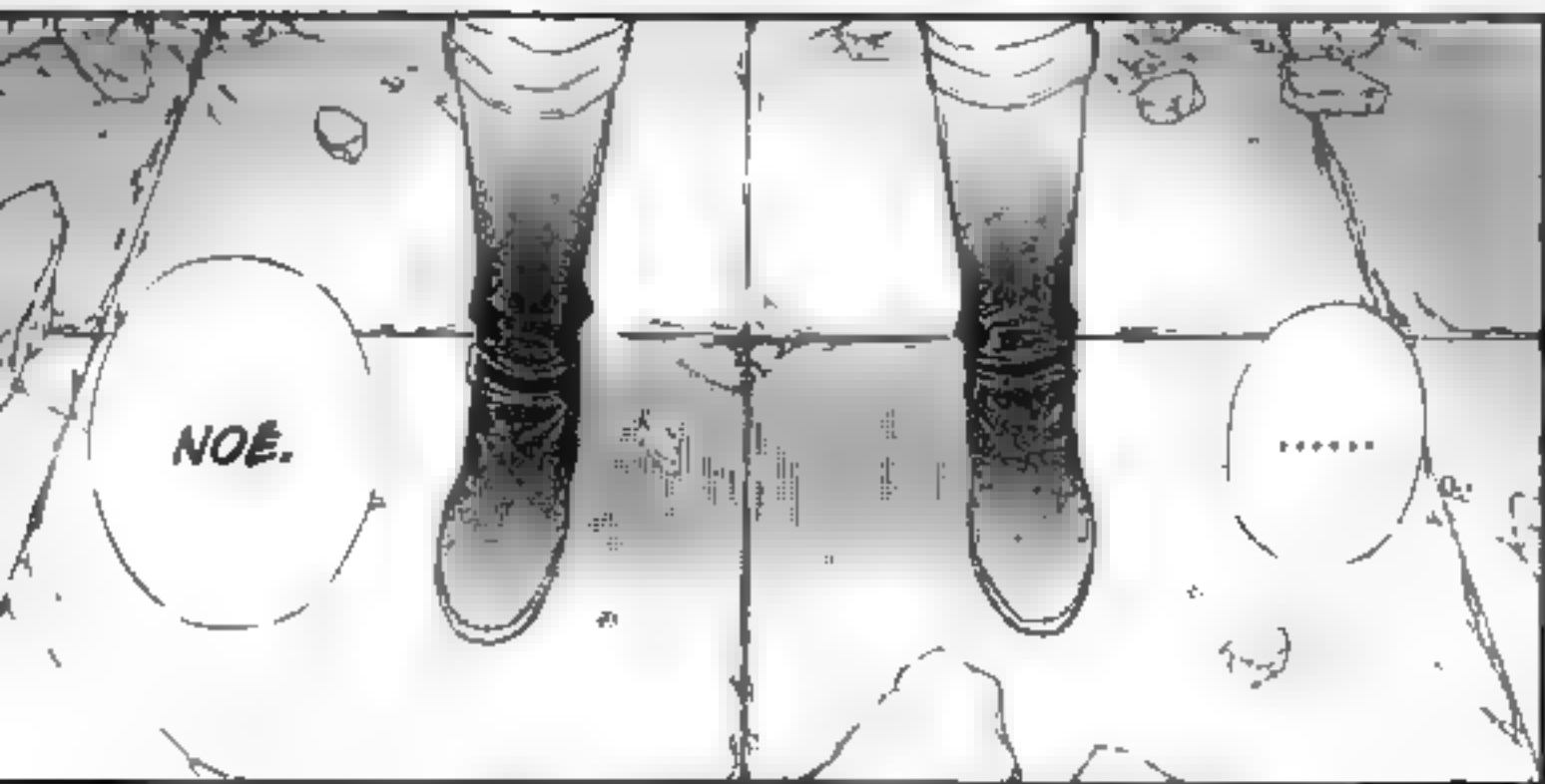


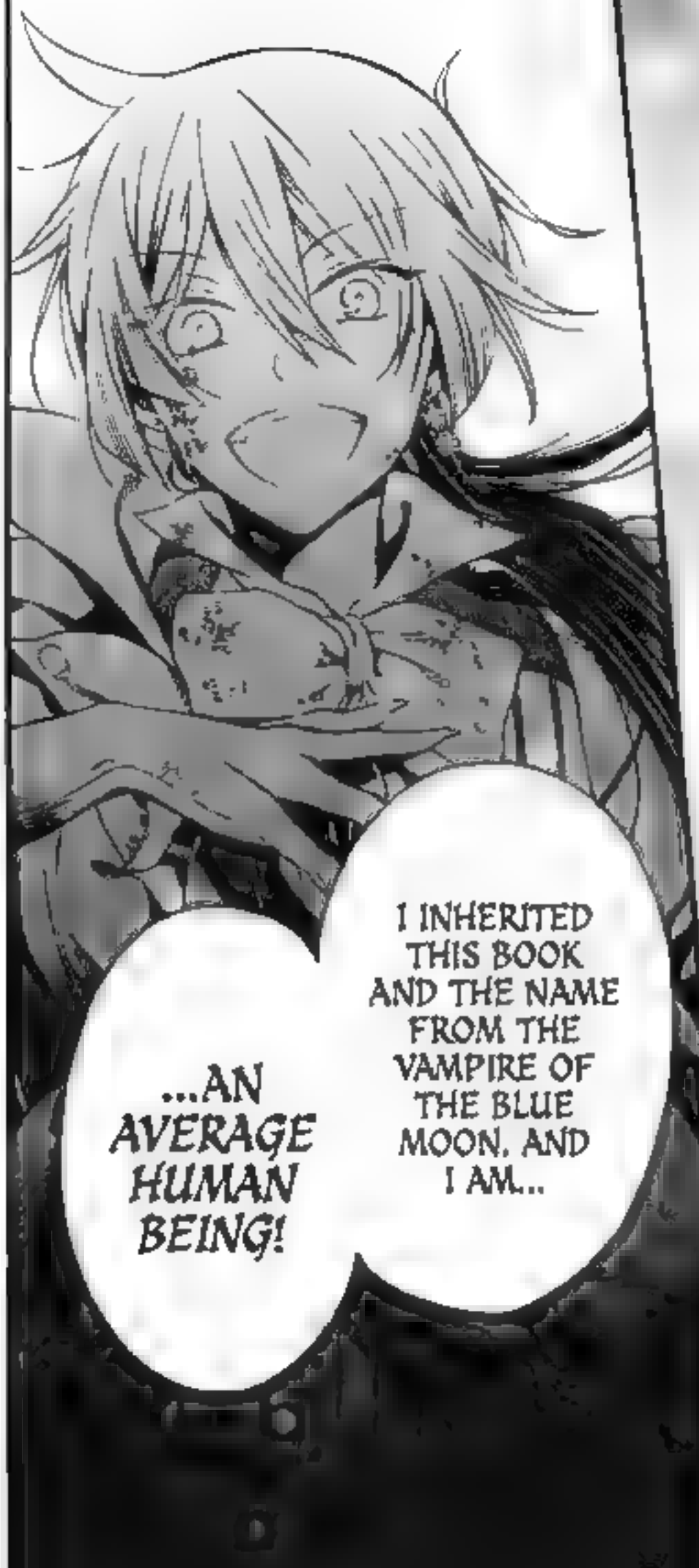
.. WHAT
ARE YOL
SAYING.. ?

..ALL?

THAT'S



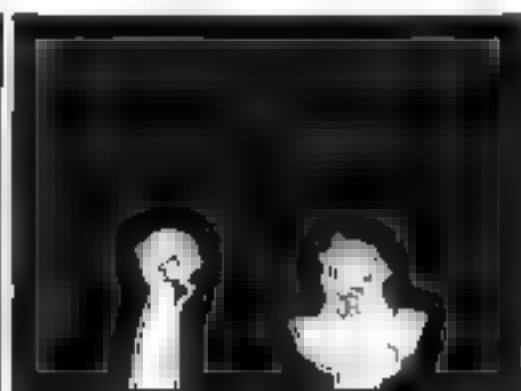
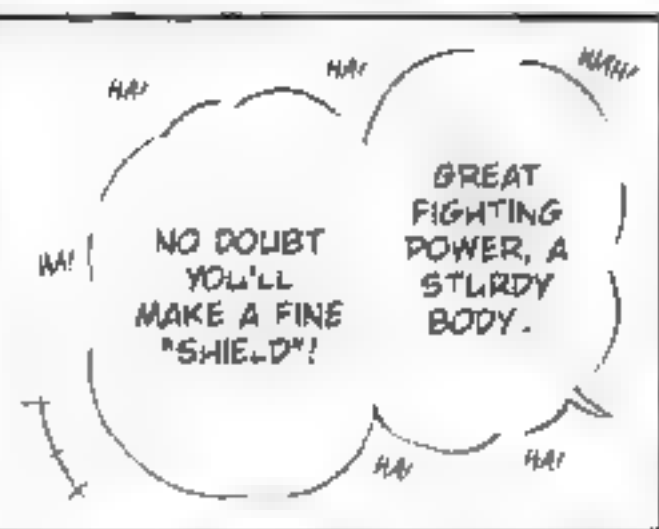




**I AM
VANITAS.**

**...AN
AVERAGE
HUMAN
BEING!**

**I INHERITED
THIS BOOK
AND THE NAME
FROM THE
VAMPIRE OF
THE BLUE
MOON. AND
I AM...**



IF WE LET
THINGS STAND,
WITHOUT
INVESTIGATING
THE CAUSE...

...IN THE NOT
SO DISTANT
FUTURE, YOU
VAMPIRES—

THE NUMBER
OF VAMPIRES
WHO'VE LOST
CONTROL AFTER
THEIR TRUE
NAMES WERE
ATTACKED BY
MALADIES IS
INCREASING
RAPIDLY.

WOULD
YOU
LISTEN
TO—?

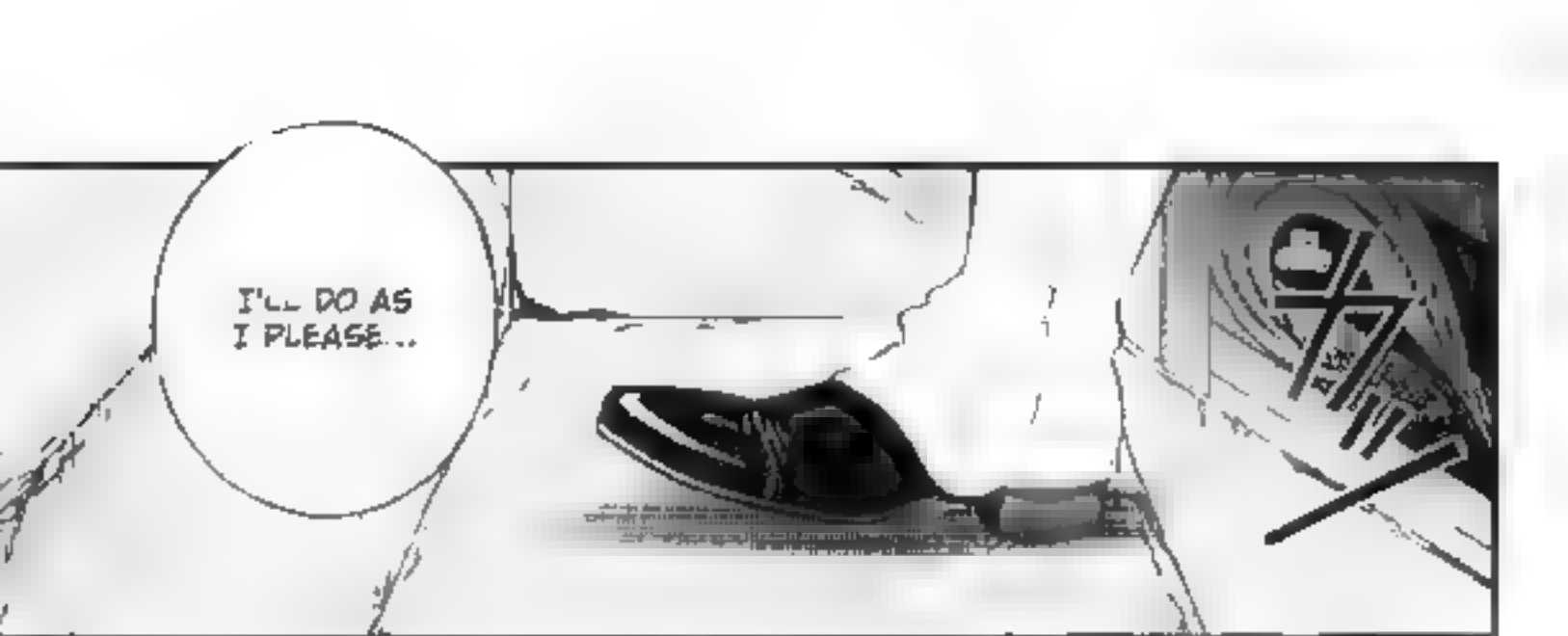
YOU
SAW THE
GIRL BACK
THERE,
DIDN'T
YOU?

—WILL BE
DESTROYED.

...PREVENT
THAT FOR
YOU.

LET
ME...





I'LL DO AS
I PLEASE...



.. USE
METHODS I
CHOOSE..



....AND,
NO MATTER
WHAT YOU
PEOPLE
WANT...

BOSS
(CLAP)



...
**WITHOUT
FAIL!!**

...
**I
WILL
SAVE
YOU...**



THIS IS...



THAT...

*...WAS THE
BEGINNING.*





I WON'T
DIE...

...NOÉ.

EVEN IF I'M
NO LONGER
HERE...

...AT THE
END OF THAT
JOURNEY...



...THE TALE
OF HOW
I MET
VANITAS...

...AND
HOW WE
WALKED
TOGETH-
ER...



...OF
ALL WE
GAINED
...

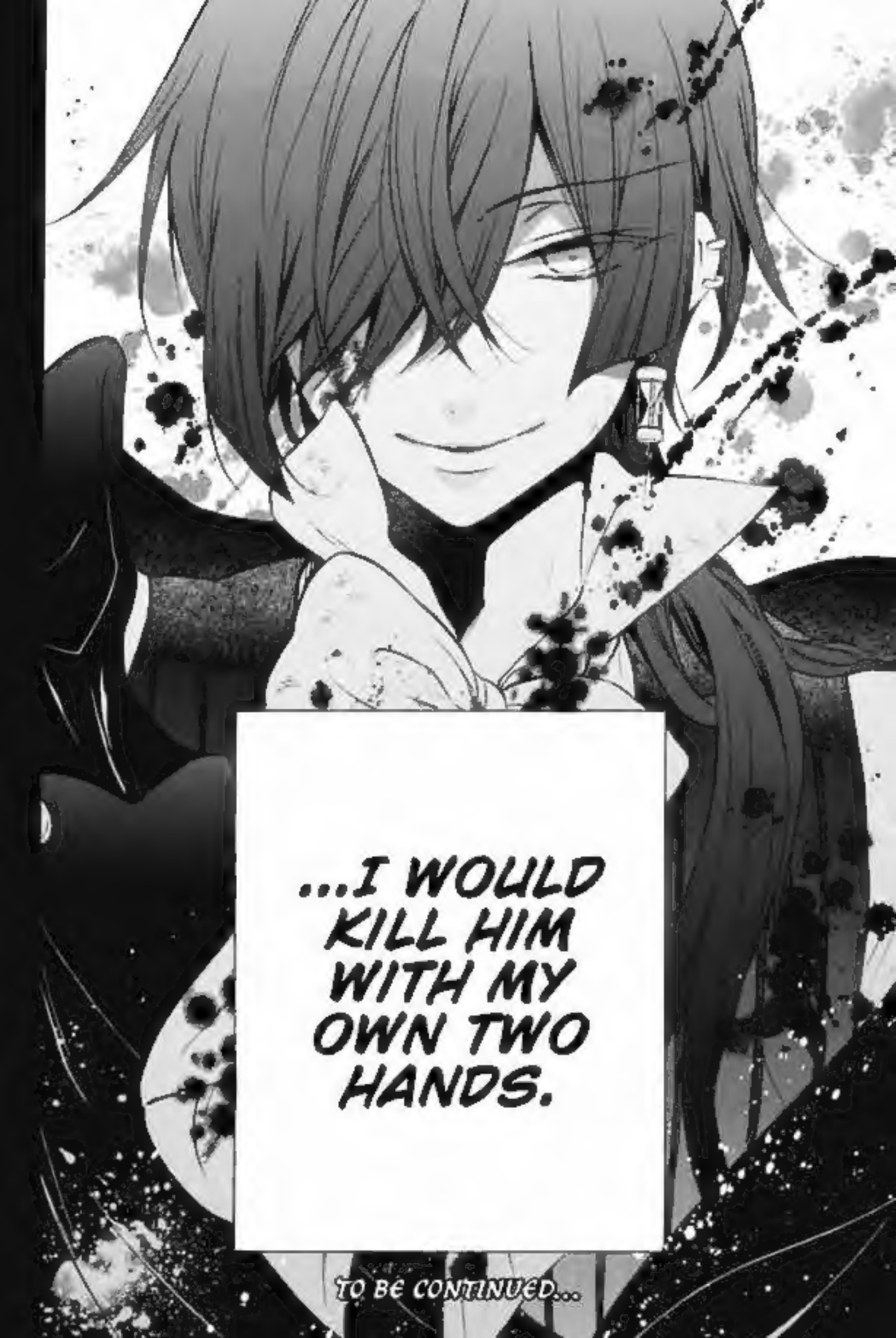


...AND
LOST...



...AND
OF
HOW...

...NOÉ...



***...I WOULD
KILL HIM
WITH MY
OWN TWO
HANDS.***

TO BE CONTINUED...